

August 18, 2016

Mr. Alfred D. Steinman Product Knowledge, LLC 19202 Chartier Dr. Leesburg, VA 20176

## Dear Mr. Steinman:

This is in response to your U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (GSA-2016-000812), dated June 3, 2016, in which you requested the following:

- 1. A list of companies identified through either market research or the formal proposal process who possessed the capability or interest in supplying the equipment covered under this set of contracts and agreement s. It is our understanding that a request for information was posted on GSA Advantage from 18 May 2012 through 1 June 2012. Further it is our understanding that a full and open competition on GSA Advantage was conducted through a Request for Quote which was open from 1 July 2031 through 5 August 2013.
- 2. Any adjectival ratings or any determinations of sufficiency or Insufficiency or other screening determinations of offerors or potential offerors related to the market research or solicitation(s).
- 3. The complete Item Purchase Description(s) as presented in the Request for Information and Request for Quote noted above.
- 4. Copies of the awarded contract(s) or agreement(s) noted above.
- Copies of any delivery orders or other similar acquisition related documentation that are associated with the contracts or agreements noted above.
- A detail of any research and development or technical support work performed, task statements, periods of performance and funding efforts authorized by or in support of the referenced contracts or agreements.
- 7. A listing of any related contracts or agreements to those noted above.

Please find the documents responsive to your request. The information included in the pdf enclosures is as follows:

- o List of respondents to the Market Surveys and RFQ;
- o Any adjectival ratings or any determinations of sufficiency or insufficiency;
- Salient Characteristics from Market Surveys and RFQ;
- o Copy of agreement;
- o Copies of delivery orders;
- A detail of any research and development or technical support work performed;
  and
- o A listing of any related contracts or agreements to those noted above.

GSA is redacting and withholding market research participants under the provisions of the fourth statutory exemption to the FOIA (5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(4)), which permits an agency to withhold trade secrets, commercial, or financial information submitted to the agency confidentially. GSA may withhold trade secrets, commercial, or financial information if release of the information would involve a substantial risk of competitive injury to a business which directly or indirectly furnished the information to GSA. We have determined that the information we are redacting and withholding under this exemption meets this test.

GSA is also redacting names, signatures, and contact information under the provisions of FOIA's sixth statutory exemption (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6)), which permits an agency to withhold "personnel and medical files and similar files", the disclosure of which "would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." We have determined that the privacy interests of individuals representing offerors outweigh any public interest in the disclosure of their names, signatures, and contact information.

Based on the information cited above, this constitutes a partial denial of your request. You have the right to appeal the partial denial of records under FOIA. To do so, you must write, within 90 days of your receipt of this letter, to the following address:

U.S. General Services Administration FOIA Requester Service Center (H1F) 1800 F St. NW, Room 7308 Washington, DC 20405

Your appeal must be in writing and should contain a brief statement of the reasons why the requested information should be released. Enclose copies of your initial request and this denial. Both the appeal letter and envelope should be marked prominently, "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

This completes our action on this FOIA request. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Mr. Donald Spears at 817-859-8371 or by email at <a href="mailto:Donald.spears@gsa.gov">Donald.spears@gsa.gov</a>. You may also contact the GSA FOIA Public Liaison, Ms. Audrey Brooks, at 202-205-5912 or by email at <a href="mailto:audrey.brooks@gsa.gov">audrey.brooks@gsa.gov</a> for

any additional assistance and to discuss any aspect of your FOIA request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:ogis@nara.gov">ogis@nara.gov</a> or by telephone at 202-741-5770 or our toll free number free 1-877-684-6448 or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

*Travis S. Lewis*FOIA Program Manager

**Enclosures**